

Message Text

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61

ACTION AF-18

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 NEA-10 IO-12 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-09 H-02

INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03 RSC-01 PRS-01 SS-15

USIA-12 AID-20 RSR-01 EUR-25 /153 W

----- 102773

R 181549 Z MAY 73

FM AMEMBASSY LAGOS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9575

INFO AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA

AMEMBASSY NIAMEY

AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE LAGOS 4008

E. O. 11652: N/ A

TAGS : PFOR, NG, NI, OAU, XF

SUBJECT: NIGERIA, OAU, AND MIDDLE EAST

REF: LAGOS 3952 (NOTAL)

1. LOCAL PRESS MAY 18 REPORTED QUICK VISIT TO NIGERIA TWO DAY EARLIER BY THREE- MAN LARG DELEGATION HEADED BY ALI TRIKI, DIRECTOR OF EUROPEAN- AMERICAN DEPARTMENT IN LIBYAN FOREIGN MINISTRY. ACCORDING NEWSPAPER ACCOUNTS, DELEGATION SPENT SEVERAL HOURS AT AIRPORT BEFORE FLYING ON TO CONAKRY AND REITERATED TO JOURNALISTS PRESENT QADDAFI APPEAL FOR TRANSFER OAU HQ FROM ADDIS ABABA BECAUSE OF PRESENCE " ZIONIST" AND " IMPERIALIST" INFLUENCES IN ETHIOPIA. DELEGATION EVIDENTLY DECIDED NOT COME TO TOWN BECAUSE OF TELEPHONE ADVICE FROM NIGERIAN MEA THAT GOWON WOULD BE UNABLE RECEIVE THEM, AND THEY LEFT WITHOUT SEEING ANY FMG OFFICIALS.

2. QUERIED ABOUT NIGER' S REPORTED SUPPORT FOR QADDAFI APPEAL JUST PRIOR HIS DEPARTURE FROM LAGOS MAY 17, NIGER PRESIDENT HAMANI DIORI GAVE CAUTIOUS REPLY THAT
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LOCATION OAU HQ WAS DECISION FOR MAJORITY OF MEMBERS TO
TAKE AND EXPRESSED PRSONAL DOUBT THAT SHIFT WOULD
CURRENTLY WIN " POPULARITY POLL" OF MEMBERSHIP. DIORI
ADDED, HOWEVER, THAT HE SHARED QADDAFI VIEW THA OAU " HAD
NOT DONE ENOUGH TO HELP CAUSE OF PALESTIN AN ARABS."

3.

COMMENT: APPARENTLY UNANNOUNCED ARRIVAL OF LOW- LEVEL
LARG DELEGATION ASKING TO SEE GOWON MAY HAVE CONTRIBUTED
TO NIGERIAN IRRITATION REFLECTED IN ARIKPO' S SHARP
REJECTION OF QADDAFI APPEAL (REFTEL)-- REJECTION WHICH
WAS VOICED JUST HOURS AFTER LIBYANS WENT ON TO CONAKRY.
REINHARDT

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NMAFVVZCZ

*** Current Handling Restrictions *** n/a

*** Current Classification *** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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30 JUN 2005

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